

11: Haguenuer--43-44
116, 156, 183

T-3

(no date) 1929

Formosan Aborigines
Atayal

The savage does not reason to any great extent, although he shows initiative during a hunt or a battle. But his other actions are governed by tradition, or by the command of the village chieftain. The science of the Tayal is purely empirical, and it is limited to a few observations concerning atmospheric phenomena, the properties of certain plants and the habits of the wild animals. If the intellectual life of the Tayal is on such a low plane, it is not because they are entirely absorbed by the necessities of their vegetative life; it is rather that they do not see any need for thinking. If you ask a Tayal a question, he will give you the traditional [44] answer which he got from his ancestors. He never tries to explain anything.

22: Wiedfeldt--39
116, 156, 181, 241, 433

F-5

(1913) 1914

Formosan Aborigines
Atayal

Atayal domestic economy produces no surplus which they could give up. Every family plants just as much land as it needs for its own maintenance. Besides, who would take a surplus off their hands, since every family produces the same thing and has enough for itself? The impulse to make a profit, which now dominates our whole life, is completely lacking....Furthermore, the Atayals have no competition, that motive power of economic life. Indeed, the effort to produce more than the other fellow and thus to distinguish oneself may be seen only in the skull hunt. Finally, they do not know how to aim at the greatest possible production with the smallest possible expenditure of strength.

35: Collingwood--141
116, 123, 156, 526, 562

D-2

(1866) 1867

Formosan Aborigines
Sek-hoan

"The following morning a number of natives visited the ship in their boats, and, on bottles being shown to them, they eagerly demanded them. When thrown into the water, half-a-dozen men leaped after them, and vigorous swimming-matches took place for the prizes. They would also dive for buttons of any kind that were thrown in. Soon afterwards several boats, full of people of all ages and both sexes, came alongside and readily ventured on board. Indeed, one great distinction between these people and the Chinese was the entire absence of timidity on the part of the females, who, instead of running away and hiding themselves as soon as they are even looked at, showed the most perfect confidence and freedom from mauvaise honte. They immediately commenced eagerly inquiring for brascos (bottles), and as our supply of these desirable articles was limited (owing to the custom of throwing empty bottles overboard), considerable jealousy was excited among the unsuccessful competitors. There was no idea of barter, and perhaps it was our own fault that we obtained nothing in return for our valuable presents. A number of our visitors were induced to descend to the captain's cabin, where, as lunch was going on, they readily partook of the edibles, and made themselves quite at home. Captain Bullock good naturedly cut off the tassels from his cushions, which were immediately transferred to the hair of the native beauties. After going about the ship, and conducting themselves with the greatest propriety, they returned to the village."

39: Wiedfeldt--12. [2]

F-3

(1913) 1917

Formosan Aborigines

116, 156, 437

Atayal

The Atayals are shrewd, and know how to act with thought and calculation in everything that concerns their vital needs. Among the border tribes, they have learned how to trade quickly, and they are quick to press their own advantage, the women in barter with the Japanese traders, and the men in their political dealings with the Japanese officials.